

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9492

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

S E C R E T USUN 4026

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AR, US, UN

SUBJECT: ROBERTO GUYER AS NEW ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR TO U.S.

1. IN CONVERSATION EVENING SEPTEMBER 27, ROBERTO GUYER CONFIRMED TO AMB BENNETT THAT HE HAD BEEN ASKED TO MOVE FROM HIS PRESENT POST AS UN UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL TO BECOME ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON. HE WOULD LIKE TO DO SO, BUT HE IS NOT SURE IT WILL WORK OUT FOR QUESTIONS OF TIMING. BUENOS AIRES HAD WANTED HIM TO MOVE TO WASHINGTON DURING NEXT WEEK. THIS HAD COME AS A SHOCK TO SYG WALDHEIM WHO TAKES POSITION THAT HE CANNOT RELEASE GUYER BEFORE THE END OF OCTOBER. GUYER SAID HE FEELS A CERTAIN LOYALTY TO WALDHEIM AND CAN UNDERSTAND THE SYG'S RELUCTANCE TO LOSE AN UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL ON SHORT NOTICE AT THE HEIGHT OF THE GA.

2. GUYER SAID HE HAD INFORMED BUENOS AIRES OF THE FOREGOING AND IT WOULD BE UP TO THEM TO MAKE THE DECISION. HE HIMSELF DOES NOT UNDERSTAND THE URGENCY FELT IN BUENOS AIRES ON FILLING THE WASHINGTON POST, SINCE HE HIMSELF BELIEVES THAT NOTHING SUBSTANTIVE CAN BE UNDERTAKEN BETWEEN ARGENTINA AND THE US IN THE LAST MONTH BEFORE US NATIONAL ELECTIONS. HE EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT GOA MAY NOT FULLY COMPREHEND THE PRE-ELECTION

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PERIOD IN THE US. HE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE ON THE

WASHINGTON JOB BUT BELIEVES THIS DEPARTURE ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE WOULD BE MISUNDERSTOOD BY EALDHEIM. HE HAS THEREFORE TAKEN POSITION WITHNBUENOS AIRES THAT HE COULD NOT LEAVE NEW YORK BEFORE NOVEMBER.

3. HE COMMENTED THAT HE MIGHT LOSE THE JOB ON THAT CONSIDERATION.

4. COMMENT, GUYER DESPITE A CERTAIN POMPOUS AND SOMETIMES QUERULOUS MANNER, HAS BEEN GENERALLY COOPERATIVE WITH USUN AND IS A MAN OF CONSTRUCTIVE ATTITUDE. HE PRIDES HIMSELF ON HIS PROFESSIONALISM AS A DIPLOMAT AND ON HIS KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF US LIFE AND POLITICS. HE HAS A CERTAIN FUSSINESS OF ATTITUDE WHICH MIGHT RENDER HIM LESS THAN A FULL SUCCESS IN CONGRESSIONAL CIRCLES IN WASHINGTON, BUT HE WOULD PROBABLY WORK WELL WITH DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS. HE COULD BE COUNTED ON TO DO HIS BEST TO INTERPRET US ATTITUDES TO GOA. HIS WIFE WOULD BE AN ASSET.
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